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(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



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English

B60C 23/04

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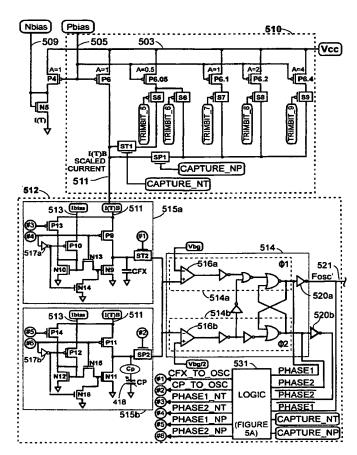
English

- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): THE GOODYEAR TIRE & RUBBER COMPANY [US/US]; 1144 East Market Street, Akron, OH 44316-0001 (US).
- (72) Inventor; and
- (75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): YONES, Dale, Lee [US/US]; Apartment 133, 5610 Arapahoe Road, Boulder, CO 80303 (US).

- (74) Agent: COHN, Howard, M.; c/o CcRobert W. Brown Dept. 823, The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company, 1144 East Market Street, Akron, OH 44309-3531 (US).
- (81) Designated States (national): AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: RELAXATION OSCILLATOR FOR TRANSPONDER



(57) Abstract: A relaxation oscillator for a transponder (102, 200, 400) capable of measuring one or more parameters (e.g., temperature, pressure) in an object (e.g., a tire, 104) and transmitting a data stream (Figures 3C, 4B) to an external reader/interrogator (106). The transpond er typically operates in a passive mode, deriving its power (Vxx, Vcc, Vdd) from an RF interrogation signal received by an antenna system (210, 410), but can also operate in a battery-powered active mode. The transponder includes memory (238, 438) for storing measurements, calibration data, programmable trim settings (436b), transponder ID and the like. Measurement readings (N_T, N_p) comprise counting oscillations of a measurement signal (Fosc') during a fixed time window (tw, tr, tp). The measurement signal is generated by a relaxation oscillator (252, 312, 452, 512) diriven by the alternating charging and discharging of measurement capacitors (CFX, Cp), wherein the capacitor charging rate is a function of current (a measurement current I(T)B which may be indicative of temperature), and of capacitance (which may be indicative of pressure).

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WO 01/44000 A1



Published:

— With international search report.

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

CORRECTED VERSION

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date 21 June 2001 (21.06.2001)

PCT

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- (51) International Patent Classification7:
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(30) Priority Data: 60/134,455

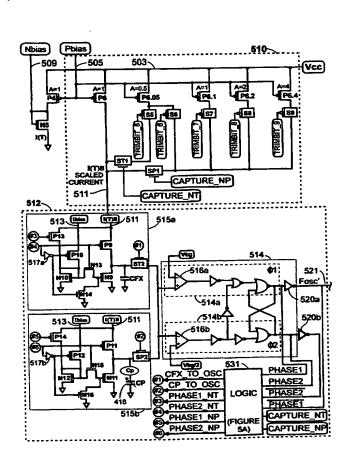
17 May 1999 (17.05.1999) US

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): THE GOODYEAR TIRE & RUBBER COMPANY [US/US]; 1144 East Market Street, Akron, OH 44316-0001 (US).

- (72) Inventor; and
- (75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): YONES, Dale, Lee [US/US]; Apartment 133, 5610 Arapahoe Road, Boulder, CO 80303 (US).
- (74) Agent: COHN, Howard, M.; c/o CcRobert W. Brown Dept. 823, The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company, 1144 East Market Street, Akron, OH 44309-3531 (US).
- (81) Designated States (national): AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: RELAXATION OSCILLATOR FOR TRANSPONDER



(57) Abstract: A relaxation oscillator for a transponder (102, 200, 400) capable of measuring one or more parameters (e.g., temperature, pressure) in an object (e.g., a tire, 104) and transmitting a data stream (Figures 3C, 4B) to an external reader/interrogator (106). The transpond er typically operates in a passive mode, deriving its power (Vxx, Vcc, Vdd) from an RF interrogation signal received by an antenna system (210, 410), but can also operate in a battery-powered The transponder includes memory active mode. (238, 438) for storing measurements, calibration data, programmable trim settings (436b), transponder ID and the like. Measurement readings (N_T, N_p) comprise counting oscillations of a measurement signal (Fosc') during a fixed time window (tw, t_T, t_p). The measurement signal is generated by a relaxation oscillator (252, 312, 452, 512) diriven by the alternating charging and discharging of measurement capacitors (CFX, Cp), wherein the capacitor charging rate is a function of current (a measurement current I(T)B which may be indicative of temperature), and of capacitance (which may be indicative of pressure).



WO 01/44000 AJ

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(84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

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4 October 2001

(15) Information about Correction: see PCT Gazette No. 40/2001 of 4 October 2001, Section II

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.



From the INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:

The Goodyear Tire and Rubber Comp. c/o Robert W. Brown-Dept 823
Attn. Cohn, Howard, M.
1144 East Market Street
Akron, Ohio 44309-3531
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

PCI

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT OR THE DECLARATION

(PCT Rule 44.1)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	
	Date of mailing (day/month/year) 28/07/2000
Applicant's or agent's file reference DN1999116PCT	FOR FURTHER ACTION See paragraphs 1 and 4 below
International application No. PCT/US 99/ 29890	International filing date (day/month/year) 15/12/1999
Applicant THE GOODYEAR TIRE & RUBBER COMPANY	
1. X The applicant is hereby notified that the International Sear	rch Report has been established and is transmitted herewith.
Filing of amendments and statement under Article 19: The applicant is entitled, if he so wishes, to amend the cla	
When? The time limit for filing such amendments is norr International Search Report; however, for more	mally 2 months from the date of transmittal of the details, see the notes on the accompanying sheet.
Where? Directly to the International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Fascimile No.: (41–22) 740.14.	35
For more detailed instructions, see the notes on the acc	companying sheet.
2. The applicant is hereby notified that no International Sear Article 17(2)(a) to that effect is transmitted herewith.	rch Report will be established and that the declaration under
3. With regard to the protest against payment of (an) addi	tional fee(s) under Rule 40.2, the applicant is notified that:
the protest together with the decision thereon has be applicant's request to forward the texts of both the p	een transmitted to the International Bureau together with the rotest and the decision thereon to the designated Offices.
no decision has been made yet on the protest; the a	pplicant will be notified as soon as a decision is made.
4. Further action(s): The applicant is reminded of the following	y:
Shortly after 18 months from the priority date, the international If the applicant wishes to avoid or postpone publication, a not priority claim, must reach the International Bureau as provide completion of the technical preparations for international publications.	ice of withdrawal of the international application, or of the and in Rules 90 <i>bis</i> .1 and 90 <i>bis</i> .3, respectively, before the
Within 19 months from the priority date, a demand for international wishes to postpone the entry into the national phase until 30 r	onal preliminary examination must be filed if the applicant months from the priority date (in some Offices even later).

Name and mailing address of the International Searching Authority

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2

priority date or could not be elected because they are not bound by Chapter II.

Within 20 months from the priority date, the applicant must perform the prescribed acts for entry into the national phase before all designated Offices which have not been elected in the demand or in a later election within 19 months from the

NL-2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016 Brigitta Klág

AUG 2 2000

GOODYEAR PATENT

NOTES TO FORM PCT/ISA/220

These Notes are intended to give the basic instructions concerning the filing of amendments under article 19. The Notes are based on the requirements of the Patent Cooperation Treaty, the Regulations and the Administrative Instructions under that Treaty. In case of discrepancy between these Notes and those requirements, the latter are applicable. For more detailed information, see also the PCT Applicant's Guide, a publication of WIPO.

In these Notes, "Article", "Rule", and "Section" refer to the provisions of the PCT, the PCT Regulations and the PCT Administrative Instructions respectively.

INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING AMENDMENTS UNDER ARTICLE 19

The applicant has, after having received the international search report, one opportunity to amend the claims of the international application. It should however be emphasized that, since all parts of the international application (claims, description and drawings) may be amended during the international preliminary examination procedure, there is usually no need to file amendments of the claims under Article 19 except where, e.g. the applicant wants the latter to be published for the purposes of provisional protection or has another reason for amending the claims before international policiation. Furthermore, it should be emphasized that provisional protection is available in some States only.

What parts of the international application may be amended?

Under Article 19, only the claims may be amended.

During the international phase, the claims may also be amended (or further amended) under Article 34 before the International Preliminary Examining Authority. The description and drawings may only be amended under Article 34 before the International Examining Authority.

Upon entry into the national phase, all parts of the international application may be amended under Article 28 or, where applicable, Article 41.

When?

Within 2 months from the date of transmittal of the international search report or 16 months from the priority date, whichever time limit expires later. It should be noted, however, that the amendments will be considered as having been received on time if they are received by the International Bureau after the expiration of the applicable time limit but before the completion of the technical preparations for international publication (Rule 46.1).

Where not to file the amendments?

The amendments may only be filed with the International Bureau and not with the receiving Office or the International Searching Authority (Rule 46.2).

Where a demand for international preliminary examination has been its filed, see below.

How?

Either by cancelling one or more entire claims, by adding one or more new claims or by amending the text of one or more of the claims as filed.

A replacement sheet must be submitted for each sheet of the claims which, on account of an amendment or amendments, differs from the sheet originally filed.

All the claims appearing on a replacement sheet must be numbered in Arabic numerals. Where a claim is cancelled, no renumbering of the other claims is required. In all cases where claims are renumbered, they must be renumbered consecutively (Administrative Instructions, Section 205(b)).

The amendments must be made in the language in which the international application is to be published.

What documents must/may accompany the amendments?

Letter (Section 205(b)):

The amendments must be submitted with a letter.

The letter will not be published with the international application and the amended claims. It should not be confused with the "Statement under Article 19(1)" (see below, under "Statement under Article 19(1)").

The letter must be in English or French, at the choice of the applicant. However, if the language of the international application is English, the letter must be in English; if the language of the international application is French, the letter must be in French.

NOTES TO FORM PCT/ISA/220 (continued)

The letter must indicate the differences between the claims as filed and the claims as amended. It must, in particular, indicate, in connection with each claim appearing in the international application (it being understood that identical indications concerning several claims may be grouped), whether

- (i) the claim is unchanged;
- (ii) the claim is cancelled;
- (iii) the claim is new;
- (iv) the claim replaces one or more claims as filed;
- (v) the claim is the result of the division of a claim as filed.

The following examples illustrate the manner in which amendments must be explained in the accompanying letter:

- [Where originally there were 48 claims and after amendment of some claims there are 51]:
 "Claims 1 to 29, 31, 32, 34, 35, 37 to 48 replaced by amended claims bearing the same numbers; claims 30, 33 and 36 unchanged; new claims 49 to 51 added."
- [Where originally there were 15 claims and after amendment of all claims there are 11]: "Claims 1 to 15 replaced by amended claims 1 to 11."
- [Where originally there were 14 claims and the amendments consist in cancelling some claims and in adding new claims]:
 - "Claims 1 to 6 and 14 unchanged; claims 7 to 13 cancelled; new claims 15, 16 and 17 added." or "Claims 7 to 13 cancelled; new claims 15, 16 and 17 added; all other claims unchanged."
- 4. [Where various kinds of amendments are made]: "Claims 1-10 unchanged; claims 11 to 13, 18 and 19 cancelled; claims 14, 15 and 16 replaced by amended claim 14; claim 17 subdivided into amended claims 15, 16 and 17; new claims 20 and 21 added."

"Statement under article 19(1)" (Rule 46.4)

The amendments may be accompanied by a statement explaining the amendments and indicating any impact that such amendments might have on the description and the drawings (which cannot be amended under Article 19(1)).

The statement will be published with the international application and the amended claims.

It must be in the language in which the international appplication is to be published.

It must be brief, not exceeding 500 words if in English or if translated into English.

It should not be confused with and does not replace the letter indicating the differences between the claims as filed and as amended. It must be filed on a separate sheet and must be identified as such by a heading, preferably by using the words "Statement under Article 19(1)."

It may not contain any disparaging comments on the international search report or the relevance of citations contained in that report. Reference to citations, relevant to a given claim, contained in the international search report may be made only in connection with an amendment of that claim.

Consequence if a demand for international preliminary examination has already been filed

If, at the time of filing any amendments under Article 19, a demand for international preliminary examination has already been submitted, the applicant must preferably, at the same time of filing the amendments with the International Bureau, also file a copy of such amendments with the International Preliminary Examining Authority (see Rule 62.2(a), first sentence).

Consequence with regard to translation of the international application for entry into the national phase

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that, where upon entry into the national phase, a translation of the claims as amended under Article 19 may have to be furnished to the designated/elected Offices, instead of, or in addition to, the translation of the claims as filed.

For further details on the requirements of each designated/elected Office, see Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide.



PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference	FOR FURTHER see Notification of	of Transmittal of International Search Report 20) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.
DN1999116PCT	ACTION	20) as well as, where applicable, item 3 below.
International application No.	International filing date (day/month/year)	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year)
PCT/US 99/29890	15/12/1999	
Applicant		
	D. COMPANY	
THE GOODYEAR TIRE & RUBBE	R COMPANY	
This International Search Report has been according to Article 18. A copy is being tra	n prepared by this International Searching Auth ansmitted to the International Bureau.	nority and is transmitted to the applicant
This International Search Report consists	of a total of sheets.	
	a copy of each prior art document cited in this	report.
Basis of the report		
•	international search was carried out on the bas	sis of the international application in the
language in which it was filed, unl	less otherwise indicated under this item.	
the international search w Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).	ras carried out on the basis of a translation of the	he international application furnished to this
b. With regard to any nucleotide an		nternational application, the international search
was carried out on the basis of the contained in the internation	e sequence listing : onal application in written form.	
filed together with the inte	ernational application in computer readable for	n.
furnished subsequently to	this Authority in written form.	
furnished subsequently to	this Authority in computer readble form.	
the statement that the sub- international application a	osequently furnished written sequence listing d is filed has been furnished.	oes not go beyond the disclosure in the
the statement that the info	ormation recorded in computer readable form is	s identical to the written sequence listing has been
2. Certain claims were fou	nd unsearchable (See Box I).	
3. Unity of invention is lac	king (see Box II).	
A NEW COLUMN AND AND A		
4. With regard to the title , X the text is approved as su	ibmitted by the applicant	
ι 😑	shed by this Authority to read as follows:	
	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	
5 With record to the chotre of		
5. With regard to the abstract, the text is approved as su	abmitted by the applicant.	
the text has been establis	shed, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authorice date of mailing of this international search rep	ty as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, port, submit comments to this Authority.
6. The figure of the drawings to be pub	lished with the abstract is Figure No.	5
as suggested by the appl	icant.	None of the figures.
because the applicant fail		
because this figure better	characterizes the invention.	

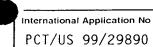


INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US 99/29890

Box III	TEXT OF THE ABSTRACT (Continuation of item 5 of the first sheet)	
The	part beginning with the words "By using a" (line ending in the words "measured parameters" (line 1	13).
and	ending in the words "measured parameters" (line 1	7) is deleted.
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A. CLASSI IPC 7	IFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER B60C23/04		
According to	o International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classif	fication and IPC	
	SEARCHED	loador are a	
Minimum do	ocumentation searched (classification system followed by classifica-	ation symbols)	
IPC /	B60C		
Documentat	tion searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that	t such documents are included in the fields so	earched
	lata base consulted during the international search (name of data b	pase and, where practical, search terms used	1)
EPO-In	ternal, PAJ		
C. DOCUME	ENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the re	elevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Α	WO 99 52723 A (BROWN ROBERT WALT		1,12,21
	;POLLACK RICHARD STEPHEN (US); Y LEE) 21 October 1999 (1999-10-21		
	LEE) 21 October 1999 (1999-10-21 page 27, line 24 -page 28, line		
	3		
	page 25, line 12 -page 26, line	25	
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Furth	ner documents are listed in the continuation of box C.	χ Patent family members are listed	in annex.
° Special cat	tegories of cited documents :	"T" later document published after the inter	
	ent defining the general state of the art which is not ered to be of particular relevance	or priority date and not in conflict with cited to understand the principle or the invention	the application but eory underlying the
	document but published on or after the international	"X" document of particular relevance; the cl	
"L" documer	are nt which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or is cited to establish the publication date of another	cannot be considered novel or cannot involve an inventive step when the doc	cument is -taken alone
citation	n or other special reason (as specified)	"Y" document of particular relevance; the cl cannot be considered to involve an inv	ventive step when the
other m		document is combined with one or mo ments, such combination being obvious in the act.	
"P" documer later th	nt published prior to the international filing date but an the priority date claimed	in the art. "&" document member of the same patent f	family
Date of the a	actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international sea	irch report
18	8 July 2000	28/07/2000	
Name and m	nailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2	Authorized officer	
	Curopean Faten (office, F.S. 5616 Fatentidan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31–70) 340–2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,	Smayars H	

RNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

information on patent family members

International Application No
PCT/US 99/29890

Pate cited in	nt document n search report		Publication date	Pa	atent family nember(s)		Publication date
WO 9	952723	A	21-10-1999	AU	7111398	A	01-11-1999
							
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

inter mai Application No PCT/US 99/29890

A. CLASSI IPC 7	FICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER B60C23/04		
According to	o International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classifica	ation and IPC	
B. FIELDS	SEARCHED		
Minimum do IPC 7	ocumentation searched (classification system followed by classification $B60C$	on symbols)	
Documenta	tion searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that s	uch documents are included in the fields se	earched
Electronic d	lata base consulted during the international search (name of data bas	se and, where practical, search terms used)
EPO-In	ternal, PAJ		
C. DOCUM	ENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the rele	evant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	WO 99 52723 A (BROWN ROBERT WALTE; POLLACK RICHARD STEPHEN (US); YO LEE) 21 October 1999 (1999-10-21) page 27, line 24 -page 28, line 23 page 25, line 12 -page 26, line 2	ONES DALE O 21; figure	1,12,21
Funt	her documents are listed in the continuation of box C.	χ Patent family members are listed	in annex.
"A" docume consider the consider of the course of the cour	ent defining the general state of the art which is not dered to be of particular relevance document but published on or after the international date and which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or is cited to establish the publication date of another in or other special reason (as specified) ent referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or means ent published prior to the international filing date but and the priority date claimed actual completion of the international search	"T" later document published after the interest or priority date and not in conflict with cited to understand the principle or the invention. "X" document of particular relevance; the conflict or cannot be considered novel or cannot involve an inventive step when the document of particular relevance; the conflict of the document of particular relevance; the conflict of the cannot be considered to involve an involve an involve an involve an involve an involve and in the conflict of the combination being obvious in the art. "&" document member of the same patent in the order of mailing of the international searches."	the application but sory underlying the laimed invention be considered to current is taken alone laimed invention rentive step when the re other such docusto a person skilled
	8 July 2000	28/07/2000	
Name and r	mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentiaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer Smeyers, H	





Information on patent family members

Inter mail Application No
PCT/IIS 99/29890

Patent document cited in search report date Publication (atte member(s) Patent family member(s) date (atte member(s) Patent family member(s) Patent family member(s) Patent family member(s) Patent family date (atte member(s) Patent family me	
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	1999

10/049/2 10/049/2

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL" (37 CFR 1.10) Applicant(s): Yones		Docket No. DN1999116USA	
Serial No.	Filing Date concurrently herewith	Examiner	Group Art Unit
Invention: RELAXAT	ION OSCILLATOR FOR TRANS	SPONDER	
I hereby certify that the	e following correspondence:		
DECLARATION ANI	POWER OF ATTORNEY		
		•	
		Catherine Sen	
		(Typed or Printed Name of Person Mo	ailing Correspondence)
		(Signature of Person Mailing (Correspondence)
		ET716351896	
	·	("Express Mail" Mailing Lo	abel Number)
	Note: Each paper must ha	ve its own certificate of mailing.	

10/049/24 '

CERTIFICATE OF In Applicant(s): Yones	MAILING BY "EXPRESS I	MAIL" (37 CFR 1.10)	Docket No. DN1999116USA
Serial No.	Filing Date concurrently herewith	Examiner	Group Art Unit
Invention: RELAXAT	ION OSCILLATOR FOR TRANS	SPONDER	
	e following correspondence:	REPORT	
L	(Identify type	of correspondence)	
is being deposited with	h the United States Postal Servi	ce "Express Mail Post Office to A	ddressee" service under
37 CFR 1.10 in an env	relope addressed to: The Assista	ant Commissioner for Patents, Wa	shington, D.C. 20231 on
November (Date			' :
		Catherine Senk	
		(Typed or Printed Name of Person Mail	
		(Signature of Person Mailing Co	
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Note: Each paper must have its own certificate of mailing.

10/049724

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL" (37 CFR 1.10) Applicant(s): Yones DN1999116USA Examiner Group Art Unit Serial No. Filing Date concurrently herewith Invention: RELAXATION OSCILLATOR FOR TRANSPONDER I hereby certify that the following correspondence: INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT (Identify type of correspondence) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 in an envelope addressed to: The Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on November 7, 2001 (Date) **Catherine Senkfor** (Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence) (Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence) ET716351896US ("Express Mail" Mailing Label Number) Note: Each paper must have its own certificate of mailing.

Docket No. CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL" (37 CFR 1.10) Applicant(s): Yones DN1999116USA Group Art Unit Serial No. Filing Date Examiner concurrently herewith Invention: RELAXATION OSCILLATOR FOR TRANSPONDER I hereby certify that the following correspondence: INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT, PTO-1449 AND REFERENCES (Identify type of correspondence) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 in an envelope addressed to: The Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on November 7, 2001 (Date) **Catherine Senkfor** (Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence) (Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence) ET716351896US ("Express Mail" Mailing Label Number)

Note: Each paper must have its own certificate of mailing.

10/049724 MARGE PCT/PTC 07 NOV 2001

CERTIFICATE OF I	MAILING BY "EXPRESS I	MAIL" (37 CFR 1.10)	Docket No. DN1999116USA
Serial No.	Filing Date concurrently herewith	Examiner	Group Art Unit
Invention: RELAXAT	ION OSCILLATOR FOR TRANS	SPONDER	
I hereby certify that the	e following correspondence:		
PRELIMINARY AME			
	h the United States Postal Servi	ce "Express Mail Post Office to	
37 CFR 1.10 in an env November (Date	7, 2001	ant Commissioner for Patents, Wa	asnington, D.C. 2023 Fon
		Catherine Senl	cfor
		(Typed or Printed Name of Person Ma (Signature of Person Mailing C	
		ET716351896	US
		("Express Mail" Mailing La	bel Number)
	Note: Each paper must ha	ive its own certificate of mailing.	

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL" (37 CFR 1.10) Applicant(s): Yones DN1999116USA Examiner Group Art Unit Serial No. Filing Date concurrently herewith MICHAEL BOTH 0'7 NOV 2001 Invention: RELAXATION OSCILLATOR FOR TRANSPONDER I hereby certify that the following correspondence: TRANSMITTAL LETTER (Identify type of correspondence) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 in an envelope addressed to: The Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on November 7, 2001 (Date) **Catherine Senkfor** (Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence) (Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence) ET716351896US

Note: Each paper must have its own certificate of mailing.

("Express Mail" Mailing Label Number)



From the

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITY

To:

COHN, Howard M.
The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company
c/o Robert W. Brown - Dept. 823
1144 East Market Street
Akron, Ohio 44309-3531
ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Rule 71.1)

Date of mailing (day/month/year)

16.10.2001

Applicant's or agent's file reference

DN1999116PCT

IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION

International application No. PCT/US99/29890

International filing date (day/month/year) 15/12/1999

Priority date (day/month/year)

15/12/1999

Applicant

THE GOODYEAR TIRE & RUBBER COMPANY et al.

- 1. The applicant is hereby notified that this International Preliminary Examining Authority transmits herewith the international preliminary examination report and its annexes, if any, established on the international application.
- 2. A copy of the report and its annexes, if any, is being transmitted to the International Bureau for communication to all the elected Offices.
- 3. Where required by any of the elected Offices, the International Bureau will prepare an English translation of the report (but not of any annexes) and will transmit such translation to those Offices.

4. REMINDER

The applicant must enter the national phase before each elected Office by performing certain acts (filing translations and paying national fees) within 30 months from the priority date (or later in some Offices) (Article 39(1)) (see also the reminder sent by the International Bureau with Form PCT/IB/301).

Where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary examination report. It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned.

For further details on the applicable time limits and requirements of the elected Offices, see Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide.

RECEIVED

OCT 2 3 2001

GOODYEAR PATENT

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European Patent Office D-80298 Munich

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Mummery, T

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PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

• •	or agent's file reference		See Notification of Transmittal of International ACTION Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
DN19991	16PCT	TOTT OTTILET AGTION FIGHT		
International	application No.	International filing date (day/month/year)	Priority date (day/month/year)	
PCT/US9	9/29890	15/12/1999	15/12/1999	
Internationa B60C23/0		or national classification and IPC		
Applicant				
THE GOO	DDYEAR TIRE & RUB	BER COMPANY et al.		
1. This ir and is	nternational preliminary e transmitted to the applic	xamination report has been prepared by this ant according to Article 36.	s International Preliminary Examining Authority	
2. This F	REPORT consists of a tot	al of 7 sheets, including this cover sheet.		
be (s	een amended and are th	on 607 of the Administrative Instructions un	ing rectifications made before this Authority	
3. This r	eport contains indication	s relating to the following items:		
1	Basis of the report	:		
11	☐ Priority			
Ш		t of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive	step and industrial applicability	
١٧	☐ Lack of unity of in			
V	⊠ Reasoned statement	ent under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty anations suporting such statement	y, inventive step or industrial applicability;	
VI	☐ Certain documen	ts cited		
VII	☑ Certain defects in	the international application		
VIII	☑ Certain observation	ons on the international application		
Date of sub	omission of the demand	Date of comple	tion of this report	
28/09/20	00	16.10.2001		
	mailing address of the intermediate examining authority:	ational Authorized office	cer series with the series win the series with the series with the series with the series with	
<u>)</u>	European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 5		Book 13 TOWN TOWN TO	
ì	Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465	Telephone No.	+49 89 2399 8478	

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No. PCT/US99/29890

 Basis of the re 	port
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1.	. With regard to the elements of the international application (Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17)): Description, pages:				
	2-5	1,53-62	as originally filed		
	1,1/	4 ,52	with telefax of	28/09/2000	
	Cla	ims, No.:			
	1-2	5	as originally filed		
	Dra	wings, sheets:			
	1/8-	8/8	as originally filed		
2. With regard to the language , all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.				1e	
	The	se elements were a	available or furnished to this A	uthority in the following language: , which is:	
		the language of a	translation furnished for the pu	rposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).	
		the language of pu	ublication of the international a	oplication (under Rule 48.3(b)).	
		the language of a 55.2 and/or 55.3).	translation furnished for the pu	rposes of international preliminary examination (under F	≀ule
3.				equence disclosed in the international application, the on the basis of the sequence listing:	
		contained in the in	ternational application in writte	n form.	
		filed together with	the international application in	computer readable form.	
		furnished subsequ	ently to this Authority in writter	ı form.	
		furnished subsequ	ently to this Authority in comp	uter readable form.	
			t the subsequently furnished w pplication as filed has been fur	ritten sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosurnished.	e in
		The statement tha listing has been fu		omputer readable form is identical to the written sequenc	е
	Th -		requited in the concellation of		

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No. PCT/US99/29890

		the description,	pages:
		the claims,	Nos.:
		the drawings,	sheets:
5.			established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been yond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)):
		(Any replacement sh report.)	neet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this
6.	Add	litional observations, i	f necessary:
٧.	Rea	soned statement un	nder Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;

1. Statement

Novelty (N)

Yes:

citations and explanations supporting such statement

Claims 1-25

No:

Claims

Inventive step (IS)

Yes: Clair

Claims 1-25

No:

Claims

Industrial applicability (IA)

Yes: Claims 1-25

No: Claims

2. Citations and explanations see separate sheet

VII. Certain defects in the international application

The following defects in the form or contents of the international application have been noted: see separate sheet

VIII. Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made: see separate sheet

To Chapter V.2.

V.2.1. Claims 1-11 related to a RF Transponder

V.2.1.1. Novelty of independent Claim 1

WO 99/52723 A1 (document D1) shows (see figures 2, 3, 3A) and describes:

An RF transponder (200), comprising:

a measurement current source (250, 310) for providing a measurement current (I (T), I (T)/N) to a relaxation oscillator (254, 312), the relaxation oscillator comprising a measurement switching circuit (P7, N7; P8, N8; 350), a set-reset circuit (314a, 314b) having a first phase path (314a) and a second phase path (314b), and an output (Fosc'),

the transponder further comprising:

a logic circuit (318a, 318b);

a measurement capacitor (CFX1, CFX2, CP) disposed in the measurement switching circuit (P7, N7; P8, N8; 350);

a first transistor (P7, P8), controlled by the logic circuit, for directing the measurement current to the measurement capacitor for charging the measurement capacitor;

a second transistor (N7, N8), for discharging the measurement capacitor; wherein the logic circuit provides measurement control signals (PHI1, PHI2) for combining signals indicative of a phase of the set-reset circuit for controlling alternating charging and discharging of the measurement capacitor according to the phase of the set-reset circuit.

Claim 1 differs therefrom in that

- the transponder comprises a current mirror, having transistors controlled by the logic circuit, for mirroring the measurement current in the second transistor;
- the logic circuit combines the signals indicative of the phase of the set-reset circuit with signals from a timing generator for controlling the alternating charging and discharging of the measurement capacitor according to the phase of the set-reset circuit.

EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET

Therefore, the subject-matter of the present claim 1 seems to fulfil the provisions of Art. 33 (2) PCT (Novelty) in view of the state of the art as mentioned in the search report.

V.2.1.2. Inventive Step

The problem to be solved by the present invention may therefore be regarded as to improve measurement in a RF transponder.

Although current mirroring and logic circuits per se are well-known in the art and used for other purposes in the closest prior art documents, the combination, implementation and use of such techniques as claimed in claim 1 is neither described in nor rendered obvious by the state of the art as presently on file.

The present claim 1 seems therefore to fulfil the provisions of Art 33 (3) PCT.

V.2.1.2. Dependent Claims 2-11

Claims 2-11 depending on claim 1 and having as subject-matter special and advantageous embodiments of the invention according to claim 1 seem, together with its subject-matter, to fulfil the provisions of Article 33 (2), (3) and Rule 6 PCT.

V.2.2. Claims 12-20 related to a RF Transponder

The same which has just been mentioned with respect to claims 2-11 is also relevant for claims 12-20, the claims being based on an independent claim (claim 12) defining substantially the same subject-matter as claim 1, but in different wording / a more detailed form.

Consequently, it seems that the claims fulfill the provisions of Article 33 (2) and (3) PCT.

V.2.3. Method Claims 21-25

The claims are based on an independent claim (claim 21) defining a method of generating an oscillating measurement signal corresponding to those features of independent claim 1 which distinguish the invention defined therein from the closest prior art. Consequently, it seems that the same which has been mentioned with respect to claim 1 and the claims dependent therefrom is also valid for the corresponding method claims 21-25.

It seems therefore that claims 21-25 fulfill the provisions of Article 33 (2) and (3) PCT.

V.2.4. Industrial Applicability

Claims 1-25 seem to fulfil the provisions of Art. 33 (4) PCT, because corresponding RF transponders and methods can be produced / realized and used - at least in the transponder industry.

To Chapter VII.

VII.1 In the Claims

The independent claims are not cast properly in the two part form, with those features which in combination are part of the closest prior art (see chapter V.2.) being placed in the preamble; consequently, it does not meet the requirements of Rule 6.3 (b) PCT.

VII.2 In the Description

It should be mentioned that the PCT does not foresee continuation-in-part applications as does the US patent law; consequently, the paragraph related to "cross-reference to related applications" should have been deleted.

The closest prior art document is not identified in the description and the relevant background art disclosed therein is not briefly discussed; therefore, the description does not meet the requirements of Rule 5.1 (a) (ii) PCT.

The state of the art should have been mentioned by <u>publication numbers</u> instead of (unpublished) application or attorney's docket numbers.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY International application No. PCT/US99/29890 EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET

A short reference to the claims should have been made in the description (Art. 6 PCT: Support by the description).

To Chapter VIII.

VIII.1. Clarity

The application does not meet the requirements of Art. 6 PCT because the claims are not clear and concise.

Although claims 12-20 have been drafted as separate independent claims, they appear to relate effectively to the same subject-matter and to differ from each other only with regard to the definition of the subject-matter for which protection is sought and/or in respect of the terminology used for the features of that subject-matter. The aforementioned claims therefore lack conciseness. Moreover, lack of clarity of the claims as a whole arises, since the plurality of independent claims makes it difficult, if not impossible, to determine the matter for which protection is sought, and places an undue burden on others seeking to establish the extent of the protection.

The vague statements ("according to an aspect of the invention) in the description on pages 8 ff. imply that the subject-matter for which protection is sought may be different to that defined by the claims, thereby resulting in lack of clarity (Article 6 PCT) when used to interpret them (see also the PCT Guidelines, III-4.3a).

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RELAXATION OSCILLATOR FOR TRANSPONDER

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application relates to PCT applications Serial no. PCT/US99/29723 entitled POWER ON RESET FOR TRANSPONDER, Serial No. PCT/US99/29827, entitled PROGRAMMABLE MODULATION INDEX FOR TRANSPONDER and Serial No. PCT/US99/29840 entitled PROGRAMMABLE TRIMMING FOR TRANSPONDER, each having a filing date concurrent with that of the present application.

This application is a continuation-in-part of commonly-owned, copending PCT applications Serial Nos. PCT/U99/29668 and PCT/US99/29606 both filed on 14 December 1999, which in turn are continuation-in-part of commonly-owned, copending PCT application Serial Nos. PCT/US98/07338, PCT/US99/07836 and PCT/US99/07575 all filed on 14 April 1998.

This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/134,455, filed May 17, 1999 by Yones.

TECHNICAL FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to monitoring pressure and temperature and, more particularly in conjunction with transponders associated with the tires for transmitting pressure and temperature measurements to an external (e.g., on-board) receiver (reader, or reader/interrogator).

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Safe, efficient and economical operation of a motor vehicle depends, to a significant degree, on maintaining correct air pressure in all (each) of the tires of the motor vehicle. Operating the vehicle with low tire pressure may result in excessive tire wear, steering difficulties, poor road-handling, and poor gasoline mileage, all of which are exacerbated when the tire pressure goes to zero in the case of a "flat" tire.

The need to monitor tire pressure when the tire is in use is highlighted in the context of "run-flat" (driven deflated) tires, tires which are capable of being used in a completely deflated condition. Such run-flat tires, as disclosed for example in commonly-owned USP 5,368,082, incorporated in its entirety by reference herein, may incorporate reinforced sidewalls, mechanisms for securing the tire head to the rim, and a non-

14

pneumatic tire (donut) within the pneumatic tire to enable a driver to maintain control over the vehicle after a catastrophic pressure loss, and are evolving to the point where it is becoming less and less noticeable to the driver that the tire has become deflated. The broad purpose behind using run-flat tires is to enable a driver of a vehicle to continue

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a dashed line. The transistor P6 is connected in a current-mirroring configuration with the transistors P1, P2 and P4 in the temperature sensing and current mirroring circuitry (comparable to 306 and 308 in Figure 3, but only transistors P4 and N5 are shown in Figure 5) such that these current mirror gates are connected via line 505 (compare 305) which supplies a reference voltage Pbias to the gate of transistor P6. Because of the current mirror connection, the current through transistors P4 and P6 will mirror the PTAT current I(T) through the external resistor Rext 416, 216. The voltage supply for the programmable current scaling circuit 510 is voltage Vcc provided on line 503 (compare 303). As explained hereinabove, the voltage Vcc is regulated and substantially independent of temperature. The use of the analog supply voltage Vcc is an improvement over the previous (circuit 310) use of the digital supply voltage Vdd, because the voltage Vcc is "cleaner," not having any digital switching noise imposed on it. For the sake of simplicity, the transistors P4, P6, P6.05, P6.1, P6.2, and P6.4 are illustrated as single transistors. It is within the scope of this invention to implement these transistors as cascodes, as mentioned hereinabove for the transistors such as P1, P2 and P4 of the circuits 306 and 308 of Figure 3. It should be understood that such cascode transistors used in a current-mirror arrangement would have separate bias lines (e.g., Pbias would be split into Pbias' and Pbias'') connecting the gates of the transistors in each stage of the cascode current micror.

As in the current scaling circuit 310, the transistors P4 and P6 are connected in a current-mirroring configuration. However, instead of the circuit 310 transistors P5 and P6 having a fixed ratio of physical areas to scale the mirrored current, in the programmable circuit 510 of this invention the transistor P6 has a programmable ratio of physical areas compared to the transistor P4 (and transistors P1, P2 of circuit 306 and 308) with which P6 is mirror-connected. The physical area of transistor P6 is changed by additional scaling transistors (e.g., P6.05, P6.1, P6.2, and P6.4) which are added in parallel to transistor P6, and switched into use by switches under the control of certain of the trimming bits 436b and also control signals from the row decoder & N₁, N₂ control circuit 442. It should be understood that each of the transistors P4, P6, P6.05, P6.1, P6.2, and P6.4 illustrated in Figure 5 has a suitable physical area which could be determined by the size of an individual transistor, or could be the result of adding together the physical areas of

PCT

NOTIFICATION RELATING TO PRIORITY CLAIM

(PCT Rules 26bis.1 and 26bis.2 and Administrative Instructions, Sections 402 and 409)

From	the	INTER	RNAT	IONAL	BUREAU
		***	114/71		DUILAU

To:

COHN, Howard, M.
c/o CcRobert W. Brown Dept. 823
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ÿ.	1144 East Market Street Akron, OH 44309-3531		
Date of mailing (day/month/year) 19 July 2001 (19.07.01)	ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE		
Applicant's or agent's file reference DN1999116PCT	IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION		
International application No. PCT/US99/29890	International filing date (day/month/year) 15 December 1999 (15.12.99)		
Applicant THE GOODYEAR TIRE & RUBBER COMPANY	et al		
The applicant is hereby notified of the following in respect of t			
1. Correction of priority claim. In accordance with the appliance the following priority claim has been corrected to read a	icant's notice received on:		
even though the indication of the number of the earl even though the following indication in the priority of in the priority document:	lier application is missing. claim is not the same as the corresponding indication appearing		
2. Addition of priority claim. In accordance with the applicant's notice received on: 13 March 2000 (13.03.00), the following priority claim has been added:			
US 17 May 19 even though the indication of the number of the earl	999 (17.05.99) 60/134,455		
	elaim is not the same as the corresponding indication appearing		
3. As a result of the correction and/or addition of (a) priority	y claim(s) under items 1 and/or 2, the (earliest) priority date is:		
The applicant's notice was received after the expirated. The applicant's notice failed to correct the priority class the applicant may, before the technical preparations for	er Rule 26bis.2(a) (Form PCT/IB/316) within the prescribed time limit. ion of the prescribed time limit under Rule 26bis.1(a). aim so as to comply with the requirements of Rule 4.10. international publication have been completed and subject to the blish, together with the international application, information a PCT Applicant's Guide, Volume I, Annex B2(IB).		
5. In case where multiple priorities have been claimed, the			
6. A copy of this notification has been sent to the receiving Offi to the International Searching Authority (where the international Searching Authority (where the international Searching Authority (where the internation	national search report has not yet been issued).		
The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland	Authorized officer Sean Taylor		
acsimile No. (41-22) 740.14.35	elephone No. (41-22) 338 83 38		

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION

(PCT Rule 61.2)

Commissioner
US Department of Commerce
United States Patent and Trademark
Office, PCT
2011 South Clark Place Room
CP2/5C24
Arlington, VA 22202
ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE

ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE in its capacity as elected Office		
Applicant's or agent's file reference: DN1999116PCT		
Priority date:		

it under
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The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

Authorized officer:

J. Zahra

Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38

Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35